



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION

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TRUCK GROUP

July 24, 2003

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington D.C. 20590

RECEIVED  
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OFFICE OF  
DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

03V-263 ① of ②

**Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report**

Pursuant to Part 573.6 (c) (1), this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration by **International Truck and Engine Corporation**.

**(1) IDENTIFICATION OF VEHICLES [Part 573.6 (c)(2)]**

- Vehicle Models Involved:
  - 9900i
  - 9900iX
- Vehicle Manufacturing Dates:
  - 7/18/2002 through 6/18/2003
- Other Identification Necessary to Describe Vehicles:
  - Vehicles with 12K or 13.2K front axles and Long Stroke Brake Chambers (Feature codes: 02ASD, 02ASE and 04JBG)

**(2) COMPONENT MANUFACTURER [Part 573.6 (c)(2)(iv)]**

- This report does not relate to a component supplied by a manufacturer other than International Truck and Engine Corporation.

**(3) VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED [Part 573.6 (c)(3)]**

<i>Model</i>	<i>U.S. Quantity</i>	<i>Canadian Quantity</i>
9900i	34	44
9900iX	9	2
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46</b>

**(4) PERCENTAGE OF VEHICLES ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(4)]**

- All of the vehicles in the suspect population contain the defect.

(5) *DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(5)]*

- Under certain conditions, the drag link used on post-2002 emissions compliant 9900s will interfere with the front, driver's side, brake chamber and slack adjuster. This interference may cause damage to the slack adjuster and render it inoperable.
- An inoperable slack adjuster will cause the front brakes to wear unevenly and may eventually cause a **vehicle crash without warning, which could result in property damage, personal injury, or death.**

(6) *CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT or TEST RESULTS THAT LED TO DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE [Part 573.6 (c)(6)(7)]*

- 5/27/03: An engineering investigation was initiated as a result of a report of an interference condition on an engineering test vehicle.
- 6/12/03: Engineering release to block defective units from being built.
- 6/19/03: Test completed to verify interference condition exists.
- 6/26/03: Search conducted to define suspect population.
- 7/17/03: International declares a safety recall.

(7) *PROGRAM TO REMEDY DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)]*

- All vehicles in the suspect population will have their current pitman arms, drag links, and steering arms replaced with new parts.

(8) *PLAN FOR REIMBURSEMENT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]*

- Some of the vehicles in this recall fall outside the warranty period; therefore, our plan for reimbursement of pre-notification remedies, on file and dated 2/6/2003, applies and instructions will be included in the customer notification.

(9) *SCHEDULE FOR RECALL NOTIFICATION [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]*

- Notify International Dealers by: 9/5/2003
- Notify International Customers by: 9/12/2003

(10) *INTERNATIONAL RECALL NUMBER [Part 573.6 (c)(11)]*

- 03512 (NHTSA number not assigned yet)

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (260) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,



R. L. Van Laar

Compliance Manager

**INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION**